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Parasitic seed-plants.—FRAYSSE²⁰ has presented an interesting account of the ecological relations of a number of parasites. Especial attention was given to *Osyris alba*, a green parasite of the Mediterranean region, which grows on many hosts, but particularly on legumes and mycorrhizal plants. The seeds germinate with difficulty, and the seedlings can live for nearly a year independently. The complicated structures of the perennial haustoria are quite fully described. The host reacts by forming tyloses and other apparently defensive modifications. Similar studies were made of *Odontites rubra serotina*, *Euphrasia officinalis*, *Lathraea*, and *Monotropa hypopitys*. Most botanists regard the last species as a mycorrhizal plant, but FRAYSSE seems to find it parasitic on Pinus. In all of the species studied, attention is paid to the starch and its distribution in and around the haustoria; this starch is digested by diastases secreted by the haustoria, and is then absorbed by the parasite. The last portion of the treatise deals with the remarkable characteristics of *Cytinus Hypocistis*, which lives internally for a long time, forming vegetative structures comparable to a thallus. The penetration of this thallus is accomplished by mechanical means in part and in part by the action of diastases.—H. C. COWLES.

A new hymenomycete.—MCALPINE²¹ finds that the fungus described as *Isaria juciiformis* in 1872 by BERKELEY, from material collected in Australia in 1854, is a basidiomycete. The fungus grows principally on grasses, but it also attacks other plants. It consists of an effused somewhat gelatinous layer from which rise Isaria-like tufts of hyphae, bearing conidia. On account of these conidia-bearing tufts the fungus was placed in the genus *Isaria*. MCALPINE finds, however, that the effused part of the fungus bears a basidiosporic hymenium, in consequence of which he places it in the genus *Hypochnus* as *H. juciiformis* (Berk.) McAlp.

In a note following the foregoing article, VON HÖHNEL and SYDOW point out that the name *Hypochnus* is no longer tenable, since the species included under it belong partly to *Corticium* and partly to *Tomentella*. To include species having tufts of hyphae rising above the hymenium, v. HÖHNEL and LITSCHAUER have elevated PATOUILLARD's section *Epithele* to a genus. In this VON HÖHNEL and SYDOW place MCALPINE's fungus as *E. juciiformis* (Berk.) v. Höhn. et Syd.—H. HASSELBRING.

Embryo sac of Impatiens.—LONGO²² has described an interesting haustorial apparatus in connection with *Impatiens amphorata*. In the growth of the sac the small nucellus is resorbed, the sac coming into contact with the inner integument, whose inner cells function as a tapetum. From the enlarged micropylar

²⁰ FRAYSSE, A., Contribution à la biologie des plantes phanérogames parasites. Montpellier. 1906. See Bot. Cent. 102: 51-52. 1906.

²¹ MCALPINE, D., A new hymenomycete—the so-called *Isaria juciiformis* Berk. Ann. Mycol. 4: 541-551. pls. 8, 9. 1906.

²² LONGO, B., Nuove ricerche sulla nutrizione dell'embrione vegetale. Reale Accad. Lincei 16: 591-594. figs. 2. 1907.